

TOWN OF STOW

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MONDAY, MAY 1, 2006

7:00 P.M.

HUGH MILL AUDITORIUM/GYMNASIUM
HALE MIDDLE SCHOOL

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2006

7:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

CENTER SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

Annual Report of Officers and Committees
Available at Town Building, Police Station
and Randall Library

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT	4
RESERVE FUND TRANSFER DETAILS.....	6
ARTICLE 1. TOWN OFFICERS NOT ELECTED BY BALLOT	7
ARTICLE 2. REPORTS OF SELECTMEN AND OTHER OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES.....	7
ARTICLE 3. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES	7
ARTICLE 4. WAGE AND SALARY SCHEDULES.....	7
ARTICLE 5. GENERAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL 2007	12
ARTICLE 6. RESCIND ARTICLE 44 OF 2004 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING.....	18
*****Beginning of the Consent Calendar*****	18
ARTICLE 7. RESERVE FUND.....	18
ARTICLE 8. TAX TITLE PROCEEDINGS.....	18
ARTICLE 9. AUDIT OF FINANCIAL RECORDS	19
ARTICLE 10. REVOLVING FUND FOR INSPECTION FEES	19
ARTICLE 11. REVOLVING FUND FOR ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT SERVICES.....	19
ARTICLE 12. TRANSFER TO CONSERVATION FUND	19
ARTICLE 13. ADDITION TO CONSERVATION FUND.....	20
ARTICLE 14. TRANSFER FROM WETLANDS PROTECTION FUND	20
ARTICLE 15. UPDATE OF PROPERTY VALUATIONS.....	20
ARTICLE 16. TOWN RECORDS BINDING AND REPAIR.....	20
ARTICLE 17. HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	21
ARTICLE 18. FEDERAL SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT	21
ARTICLE 19. HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION	21
ARTICLE 20. EMERSON HOSPITAL HOME CARE.....	21
ARTICLE 21. SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL CONTAINER	22
ARTICLE 22. STOW CULTURAL COUNCIL	22
ARTICLE 23. PLANNING BOARD ENGINEERING/CONSULTING AND MASTER PLAN EXPENSES	22
ARTICLE 24. PURCHASE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT.....	22
ARTICLE 25. FY 2006 LEGAL SERVICES.....	23
ARTICLE 26. FY 2007 LEGAL SERVICES.....	23
ARTICLE 27. POLICEMEN & FIREMEN MEDICAL PAYMENTS.....	23
ARTICLE 28. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE EXPENSES	23
ARTICLE 29. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION RESERVES.....	24
*****End of the Consent Calendar*****	24
ARTICLE 30. CAPITAL REQUESTS	25
ARTICLE 31. CONSTRUCTION OF NEW HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC TRACK	25
ARTICLE 32. TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO SCHOOL BUILDING TASK FORCE	25
ARTICLE 33. SENIOR TAX RELIEF: REDUCE INTEREST ON DEFERRED PROPERTY TAXES	26
ARTICLE 34. SENIOR TAX RELIEF: INCREASE PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION	26
ARTICLE 35. TRANSFER OF MANAGEMENT OF LAND TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION	26
ARTICLE 36. ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENT – DRAINAGE.....	27
ARTICLE 37. ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENT – PHASING OF GROWTH	28
ARTICLE 38. STREET ACCEPTANCE: FARM ROAD	28
ARTICLE 39. STREET ACCEPTANCE: MILITIA CIRCLE	29
ARTICLE 40. STREET ACCEPTANCE: TREFRY LANE.....	30
ARTICLE 41. STREET ACCEPTANCE: WHISPERING WAY	30
ARTICLE 42. TRANSFER TO STABILIZATION FUND.....	31
ARTICLE 43. BALANCE THE FY 2007 BUDGET.....	31
ARTICLE 44. TOWN ELECTION	31
CONSENT CALENDAR PROCEDURES	35
CONSENT CALENDAR	36
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	42

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

For the first time in several years, balancing the proposed FY 2007 budget will not require a Proposition 2 ½ override, nor will the budget require any new town borrowing. This is good news, meaning that for FY 2007, the town's income is rising at a rate equal to or greater than the town's expenses. The Finance Committee has long advocated for "living within our means", and we are pleased that Stow is indeed living within its means for FY 2007.

However, this budget still deserves careful consideration and scrutiny. The combination of factors that make FY 2007 need no override may not be present in future years, so this may indeed be a one-year reprieve. Expenses, both municipal and educational, are still rising (by approximately \$1.1M), as are payments for interest and principal on borrowing that was previously approved as debt exclusion. The FY 2007 budget will increase taxes on the average house approximately the same amount as did the FY 2006 budget.

WHAT THIS WARRANT MEANS TO YOU

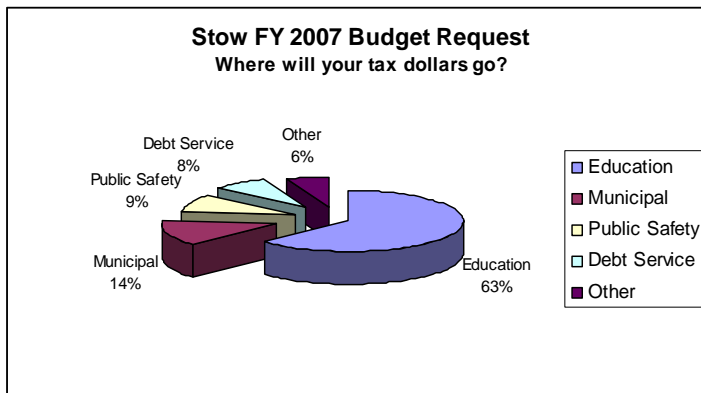
Revenue for FY 2007 is projected to increase by almost \$1.2 million, to \$20 million. The most substantial increase is tied to property tax revenue, which will increase \$1.6 million, based on last year's override, new growth (new construction), allowable increases under Proposition 2 ½ and prior debt exclusions. Also, state reimbursement for the Hale Middle School construction project will increase almost \$200,000 because the final project audit was recently completed. This will bring the annual Hale School reimbursement to \$542,576 for the next 15 years. The proposed FY 2007 budget does not include any borrowing, but does, however, use only \$200,000 of Free Cash to help fund capital spending. Following are the revenue sources we expect to use in the next fiscal year.

<u>Revenue Sources</u>	<u>FY06</u>	<u>FY07</u>	<u>\$ Increase</u>
Total Property Tax	\$15,562,029	\$17,192,038	\$1,630,009
State Aid	445,316	489,847	44,531
State Aid-Hale School Reimbursement	346,495	542,576	196,081
Local Receipts	1,458,100	1,531,005	72,905
Transfer from Other Funds/Carryovers	55,838	42,262	(13,576)
Borrowing (for Capital)	350,000	0	(350,000)
Free Cash (for Capital & Other)	<u>233,262</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>(33,262)</u>
Total Revenue (without override)	\$18,451,040	\$19,997,728	\$1,546,688
<u>Override</u>	<u>350,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(350,000)</u>
Total Revenue to balance budget	\$18,801,040	\$19,997,728	\$1,196,688

If approved in its entirety, this budget will increase the average tax bill in Stow by approximately \$335 (based on an average assessed value of approximately \$450,000).

EXPENSES

How we spend our money. As you can see from this pie chart, in FY 2007 the Minuteman and Nashoba school assessments make up approximately 63% of our annual spending, down 2% from FY 2006. Public safety (police and fire) accounts for about 9%, debt takes 8%, and the rest of the municipal budget consumes 14% of our expenses.

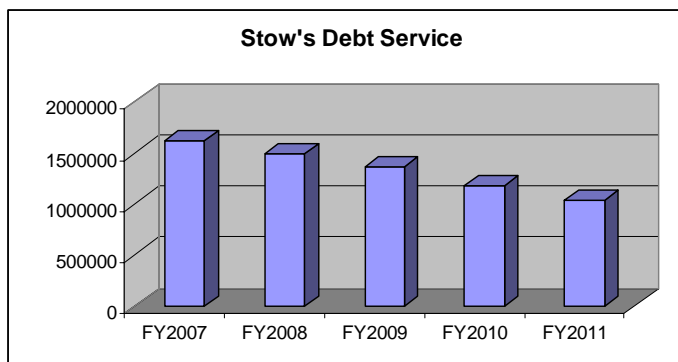


Following are the budget items that make up the proposed \$1.1 million spending increase. Several line items, including the Minuteman school assessment and capital spending, are decreasing in FY 2007. Debt Service is increasing at by far the highest percentage, 25.2%, due to payments on modular classrooms and anticipated payments on town land purchases.

<u>Budget Category</u>	<u>FY06</u>	<u>FY07</u>	<u>\$ Increase</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
Nashoba Regional School District	\$10,848,016	\$11,522,329	\$674,313	6.2%
Municipal Budget	4,204,802	4,450,518	245,716	5.8%
Debt Service	1,294,683	1,621,305	326,622	25.2%
Minuteman Vocational School	987,068	971,371	(15,697)	(1.6)%
Tax Recap Items	503,673	557,950	54,277	10.8%
Special Articles, Raise & Appropriate	298,619	264,580	(34,039)	(11.4)%
Capital Spending	565,862	494,500	(71,362)	(12.6)%
Special Articles, Appropriate & Transfer	80,838	42,262	(38,576)	(47.7)%
Total Expenditures	\$18,783,561	\$19,924,815	\$1,141,254	6.1%

DEBT

This chart shows approximate debt payments (principal & interest) for the next 5 years. Note that this excludes debt for the NRSD High School and Deficit bond, both of which are included in the NRSD assessment. Please note that this schedule does not take into consideration potential debt for any new/renovated school(s).



The Stow Finance Committee

Jason Robart - Chairman, Patricia Heron, - Vice Chairman

Pamela Glauner, Charles Kern, David Walrath - Members

Gary Bernklow, Henry Hagopian, Stephen Piote, James Salvie - Associate Members

Written April 4, 2006

RESERVE FUND TRANSFER DETAILS

The Finance Committee administers the Town Reserve Fund, which is used for unexpected or emergency unbudgeted expenses during the fiscal year. For the past 3 fiscal years, \$70,000 has been put into the Reserve Fund. Unexpended Reserve Fund monies return to the Town's General Fund as Free Cash, for use in the following fiscal year.

Reserve Fund Transfers FY06 and FY05

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
FY2006	(FY2006 includes requests approved as of 4/4/06)	
7/26/2005	Assabet River Rail Trail	\$ 10,000.00
9/13/2005	Council on Aging (Advertising for director)	331.02
9/27/2005	COA (Advertising for outreach coordinator)	637.04
1/10/2006	Town Clerk (Town Meeting printing)	1,320.00
1/10/2006	Town Clerk (Town Meeting and Election Wages)	3,115.00
3/9/2006	Zoning Board of Appeals (Postage)	600.00
3/28/2006	Municipal Buildings (Water treatment)	1,369.00
		<u>\$ 17,372.06</u>
FY2005		
10/5/2004	Selectmen (Advertising)	1,040.50
10/19/2004	Police Dept (Janitorial)	5,500.00
12/7/2004	Legal (Land Court - Tax Title Foreclosure)	2,025.00
3/22/2005	Veterans' Benefits	6,000.00
3/31/2005	Building Inspector (Interim Inspector)	760.00
4/5/2005	Municipal Buildings (Town Hall Furnace)	4,085.00
5/10/2005	Gasoline and Diesel Fuel	10,000.00
6/14/2005	Board of Health (Hazard Waste Collection)	4,183.75
6/14/2005	Board of Health (Wages)	594.00
6/14/2005	Zoning Board of Appeals (Advertising)	250.00
6/30/2005	Insurance and Bonds (Deductible Claim)	3,080.00
6/30/2005	Treasurer/Collector (Advertising)	817.00
7/12/2005	Insurance and Bonds (Deductible Claim)	240.00
		<u>\$ 38,575.25</u>



WARRANT FOR 2006 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

To either of the Constables of the Town of Stow, in the County of Middlesex, GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Stow, qualified to vote in Elections and Town Affairs, to assemble in

HUGH MILL AUDITORIUM AT THE HALE SCHOOL

In said Town on
MONDAY, THE FIRST DAY OF MAY 2006
AT 7:00 P.M.

Then and there to act on the following Articles, namely:

ARTICLE 1. TOWN OFFICERS NOT ELECTED BY BALLOT

To choose all other necessary Town Officers who will not be elected by ballot at the Annual Election on May 9, 2006.

ARTICLE 2. REPORTS OF SELECTMEN AND OTHER OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

To hear the reports of the Selectmen and other Officers and Committees of the Town for 2005; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectmen)

ARTICLE 3. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

To hear the reports of special committees of 2005; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectmen)

ARTICLE 4. WAGE AND SALARY SCHEDULES

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 11 of the General Bylaws of the Town, Personnel Administration, by deleting from Section 20.h. the existing salary Schedules A, B, C, D, E, and F and inserting in place thereof the following new Schedules; or take any other action thereto.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. In general, town employees are receiving a 3% cost of living increase for FY 2007, the same as they have received for the past several years. Salary rates for several positions were increased (retroactive to 7/1/05) at the October 2005 Special Town Meeting, based on the Salary Survey Committee's recommendations. These positions are receiving a 3%

increase over their adjusted FY 2006 salary, although it will appear to be a higher percentage if comparing to the salary schedules printed in the May 2005 Town Meeting warrant.

TOWN OF STOW
WAGE & SALARY SCHEDULES
Effective July 1, 2006 (3%)

SCHEDULE A
ANNUAL RATE POSITIONS

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Police Chief	65,927	68,325	71,921	77,913	88,132
Supt. of Streets	58,989	62,674	66,364	70,048	73,738
Fire Chief	58,509	60,850	64,362	70,216	76,063
Town Acct.	54,117	57,480	60,866	64,250	67,636
Police Lieut.	59,652	64,154	67,531	70,907	73,159
Treas. Collector	46,544	49,454	52,363	55,270	58,180
Bldg. Inspector	45,563	48,409	51,257	54,106	56,954
Planning, Zoning and Environmental Coordinator	46,153	49,039	51,922	54,811	57,696
Library Director	43,357	46,068	48,777	51,491	54,198
Town Clerk	38,963	41,278	43,707	46,132	48,561

SCHEDULE B
HOURLY RATE POSITIONS

GROUP A

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Parks & Commons Worker	9.90	10.75	11.66	12.51	13.37
Cemetery Worker	9.90	10.75	11.66	12.51	13.37
Custodian	9.90	10.75	11.66	12.51	13.37

GROUP B

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Assistant Town Clerk	14.60	15.72	16.89	18.30	19.66
Capital Prog. Comm. Secy.	11.24	12.09	13.00	14.08	15.13

GROUP C

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Bd. of Appeals Secretary	15.36	16.73	18.05	19.44	20.76
Town Secretary	12.09	13.17	14.21	15.31	16.36
Highway/Tree/ Grounds Worker	12.09	13.17	14.21	15.31	16.36

GROUP D

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Highway/Tree Grounds Driver- Laborer	14.97	15.92	16.85	17.77	18.69

GROUP E

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Highway Dept. Equipment Operator	16.35	17.37	18.38	19.42	20.41
Tree Worker (Moth)	16.35	17.37	18.38	19.42	20.41
Maintenance Person	16.35	17.37	18.38	19.42	20.41

GROUP F

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Highway Dept. Mechanic	17.33	18.34	19.51	20.59	21.65
Crew Chief	18.03	19.08	20.29	21.41	22.52

GROUP G

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Highway Dept. Foreman	19.25	20.46	21.64	22.85	24.03

SCHEDULE C
SINGLE RATE POSITIONS PAID ANNUALLY

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Registrar of Voters	116
Assistant Registrar of Voters	233
Animal Control Officer	14,757
Director of Summerthing	2,337
Beach Director	5,035
Cemetery Superintendent	29,973
Animal Inspector	3,063
Veterans' Services Officer	1,266
Council on Aging Secretary	810

SCHEDULE D
SINGLE RATE POSITIONS PAID HOURLY

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Election Warden	8.90
Election Clerk	8.90
Election Teller	7.88
Election Clerical Assistance	7.88
Lifeguard	9.79
Lifeguard (W.S.I.)	11.55
Beach Checker	7.88
Street Lister	8.50
Street Listing Clerk	7.88
Street Numberer	7.88
Per Diem Firefighter (call)	12.36
Apprentice Firefighter (call)	11.98
Firefighter (call)	13.69
Emergency Medical Technician (call)	13.69
Firefighter/EMT (call)	14.31
EMT - w/Defib & Epi Pen (call)	14.94
Firefighter/EMT - w/Defib & Epi Pen (call)	15.56
Officers - Fire or Medical (call)	16.82
Police Officer, part-time	19.14
Police Matron	16.88
Auxiliary Police Officer	12.49
Dispatcher, part-time	12.49
Summerthing Assistant	7.88

SCHEDULE E
FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL SINGLE RATES

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Deputy Fire Chief (call)	845
Fire Engineer	732
Fire Captain (call)	562
Fire Lieutenant (call)	450
Fire Medical Officer	338
EMS Quartermaster	225
EMS Schedule Coordinator	170
EMS Assistant Coordinator	282
EMS Records Coordinator	338

SCHEDULE F
FEE RATE POSITIONS

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Wire Inspector	90% of fees collected
Deputy Wire Inspector	90% of fees collected
Gas Inspector	90% of fees collected
Assistant Gas Inspector	90% of fees collected
Animal Disposal Officer	\$10 per animal
Sealer of Weights & Measures	Total fees collected

An employee who qualifies to receive benefits from the Town's Educational Incentive program will earn a 5-percent, 10-percent or 15-percent annual bonus above his or her base Step Schedule wage or salary.

ARTICLE 5. GENERAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL 2007

To see what sums of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, to defray the necessary expenses of the several departments of the Town, as set forth in the following line items, or any other sums; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectmen)

Line No.	DEPARTMENT	FY2006 ADJUSTED BUDGET	FY2007 BUDGET REQUESTED	FY2007 BUDGET TOWN ADMIN/ SELECTMEN RECOMMENDED	FY2007 BUDGET FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED
	<u>MUNICIPAL BUDGET</u>				
	<u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u>				
	MODERATOR				
1	MODERATOR SALARY	34.00	35.00	35.00	35.00
2	MODERATOR EXPENSES	42.00	43.00	43.00	43.00
	TOTAL MODERATOR	76.00	78.00	78.00	78.00
	SELECTMEN				
3	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT SALARY	37,282.00	40,121.00	40,121.00	40,121.00
4	SELECTMEN EXPENSES	8,515.00	8,611.00	8,611.00	8,611.00
5	TOWN ADMINISTRATOR SALARY	95,334.00	98,194.00	98,194.00	98,194.00
6	TOWN ADMINISTRATOR EXPENSES	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
	TOTAL SELECTMEN	141,631.00	147,426.00	147,426.00	147,426.00
	TOWN BUILDING CLERICAL				
7	TOWN BUILDING CLERICAL WAGES	7,714.00	14,898.00	14,898.00	14,898.00
	TOTAL TOWN BUILDING CLERICAL	7,714.00	14,898.00	14,898.00	14,898.00
	FINANCE COMMITTEE				
8	FINANCE COMMITTEE WAGES	2,747.00	3,302.00	3,302.00	3,302.00
9	FINANCE COMMITTEE EXPENSES	445.00	375.00	375.00	375.00
	TOTAL FINANCE COMMITTEE	3,192.00	3,677.00	3,677.00	3,677.00
	TOWN ACCOUNTANT				
10	ACCOUNTANT SALARY	32,427.00	35,338.00	35,338.00	35,338.00
11	ACCOUNTANT CLERK SALARY	3,864.00	4,254.00	4,254.00	4,254.00

Line No.	DEPARTMENT	FY2006 ADJUSTED BUDGET	FY2007 BUDGET REQUESTED	FY2007 BUDGET TOWN ADMIN/ SELECTMEN RECOMMENDED	FY2007 BUDGET FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED
12	ACCOUNTANT EXPENSES	875.00	1,525.00	1,525.00	1,525.00
	TOTAL TOWN ACCOUNTANT	37,166.00	41,117.00	41,117.00	41,117.00
	ASSESSORS				
13	PRINCIPAL ASSESSOR'S WAGES	49,577.00	54,256.00	53,906.00	53,906.00
14	ASSESSORS CLERICAL WAGES	38,272.00	59,997.00	50,804.00	50,804.00
15	ASSESSORS EXPENSES	6,300.00	6,600.00	6,600.00	6,600.00
	TOTAL ASSESSORS	94,149.00	120,853.00	111,310.00	111,310.00
	TREASURER-COLLECTOR				
16	TREASURER-COLLECTOR SALARY	56,985.00	49,955.00	49,955.00	49,955.00
17	TREASURER-COLLECTOR CLERICAL WAGES	44,160.00	40,636.00	40,636.00	40,636.00
18	TREASURER-COLLECTOR EXPENSES	37,050.00	37,600.00	37,600.00	37,600.00
	TOTAL TREASURER-COLLECTOR	138,195.00	128,191.00	128,191.00	128,191.00
	TOWN CLERK				
19	TOWN CLERK SALARY	45,142.00	48,561.00	48,561.00	48,561.00
20	TOWN CLERK OTHER WAGES	15,749.00	23,067.00	23,067.00	23,067.00
21	TOWN CLERK EXPENSES	9,000.00	12,785.00	12,785.00	12,785.00
	TOTAL TOWN CLERK	69,891.00	84,413.00	84,413.00	84,413.00
	CONSERVATION COMMISSION				
22	CONSERVATION COMMISSION CLERICAL WAGES	50,437.00	55,915.00	55,915.00	55,915.00
23	CONSERVATION COMMISSION EXPENSES	4,517.00	4,280.00	4,280.00	4,280.00
	TOTAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION	54,954.00	60,195.00	60,195.00	60,195.00
	PLANNING BOARD				
24	PLANNING BOARD CLERICAL WAGES	85,712.00	93,090.00	93,090.00	93,090.00
25	PLANNING BOARD EXPENSES	6,050.00	4,510.00	4,510.00	4,510.00
	TOTAL PLANNING BOARD	91,762.00	97,600.00	97,600.00	97,600.00
	BOARD OF APPEALS				

Line No.	DEPARTMENT	FY2006 ADJUSTED BUDGET	FY2007 BUDGET REQUESTED	FY2007 BUDGET TOWN ADMIN/ SELECTMEN RECOMMENDED	FY2007 BUDGET FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED
26	BOARD OF APPEALS CLERICAL WAGES	6,612.00	6,832.00	6,832.00	6,832.00
27	BOARD OF APPEALS EXPENSES	2,800.00	3,420.00	3,420.00	3,420.00
	TOTAL BOARD OF APPEALS	9,412.00	10,252.00	10,252.00	10,252.00
	MUNICIPAL BUILDING				
28	MUNI BUILDING & PROPERTY WAGES	16,867.00	23,514.00	23,514.00	23,514.00
29	MUNI BUILDING & PROPERTY EXPENSES	51,840.00	65,422.00	65,422.00	65,422.00
	TOTAL MUNICIPAL BUILDING	68,707.00	88,936.00	88,936.00	88,936.00
	OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
30	TOWN REPORTS EXPENSES	9,765.00	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00
	TOTAL OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT	9,765.00	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00
	TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	726,614.00	808,086.00	797,093.00	797,093.00
-	<u>PUBLIC SAFETY</u>	-	-	-	-
	POLICE DEPT				
31	POLICE CHIEF SALARY	86,065.00	88,632.00	88,632.00	88,632.00
32	POLICE & DISPATCH WAGES	885,696.00	950,563.00	950,563.00	950,563.00
33	POLICE & DISPATCH EXPENSES	73,000.00	81,430.00	81,430.00	81,430.00
	TOTAL POLICE DEPT	1,044,761.00	1,120,625.00	1,120,625.00	1,120,625.00
	FIRE AND EMS				
34	FIRE CHIEF SALARY	68,171.00	76,063.00	76,063.00	76,063.00
35	FIRE AND EMS WAGES	382,604.00	393,860.00	393,860.00	393,860.00
36	FIRE AND EMS EXPENSES	70,050.00	74,114.00	74,114.00	74,114.00
	TOTAL FIRE AND EMS	520,825.00	544,037.00	544,037.00	544,037.00
	BUILDING INSPECTOR				
37	BUILDING INSPECTOR WAGES	55,295.00	56,954.00	56,954.00	56,954.00
38	BUILDING DEPT CLERICAL WAGES	14,611.00	15,495.00	15,495.00	15,495.00
39	BUILDING DEPT EXPENSES	4,000.00	4,975.00	4,975.00	4,975.00
	TOTAL BUILDING INSPECTOR	73,906.00	77,424.00	77,424.00	77,424.00

Line No.	DEPARTMENT	FY2006 ADJUSTED BUDGET	FY2007 BUDGET REQUESTED	FY2007 BUDGET TOWN ADMIN/ SELECTMEN RECOMMENDED	FY2007 BUDGET FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED
	TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	1,639,492.00	1,742,086.00	1,742,086.00	1,742,086.00
	<u>PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES</u>				
	HIGHWAY AND GROUNDS				
40	SUPT OF STREETS SALARY	68,508.00	70,548.00	70,548.00	70,548.00
41	HIGHWAY & GROUNDS WAGES	382,008.00	393,295.00	393,295.00	393,295.00
42	HIGHWAY & GROUNDS EXPENSES	104,525.00	103,500.00	103,500.00	103,500.00
43	SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL EXPENSE	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
	TOTAL HIGHWAY & GROUNDS	655,041.00	667,343.00	667,343.00	667,343.00
	OTHER PUBLIC WORKS				
44	MUNICIPAL LIGHTING	12,075.00	12,558.00	12,558.00	12,558.00
45	GASOLINE & DIESEL FUEL EXPENSE	55,000.00	55,000.00	55,000.00	55,000.00
	TOTAL OTHER PUBLIC WORKS	67,075.00	67,558.00	67,558.00	67,558.00
	CEMETERY DEPT				
46	CEMETERY SALARY AND WAGES	35,082.00	36,134.00	36,134.00	36,134.00
47	CEMETERY EXPENSES	4,000.00	5,214.00	5,214.00	5,214.00
	TOTAL CEMETERY DEPT	39,082.00	41,348.00	41,348.00	41,348.00
	TOTAL PUBLIC WORK & FACILITIES	761,198.00	776,249.00	776,249.00	776,249.00
	<u>HUMAN SERVICES</u>				
	HEALTH DEPT				
48	SANITARY AGENT WAGES	16,962.00	17,471.00	17,471.00	17,471.00
49	HEALTH DEPARTMENT WAGES	65,429.00	72,782.00	71,782.00	71,782.00
50	HEALTH DEPARTMENT EXPENSES	7,900.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
	TOTAL HEALTH DEPT	90,291.00	98,253.00	97,253.00	97,253.00
	COUNCIL ON AGING				
51	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SALARY	43,904.00	43,384.00	43,384.00	43,384.00
52	COUNCIL ON AGING WAGES	54,116.00	55,120.00	55,120.00	55,120.00
53	COUNCIL ON AGING EXPENSES	9,880.00	13,811.00	13,811.00	13,811.00

Line No.	DEPARTMENT	FY2006 ADJUSTED BUDGET	FY2007 BUDGET REQUESTED	FY2007 BUDGET TOWN ADMIN/ SELECTMEN RECOMMENDED	FY2007 BUDGET FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED
	TOTAL COUNCIL ON AGING	107,900.00	112,315.00	112,315.00	112,315.00
	VETERANS' DEPT				
54	VETERANS' AGENT SALARY	1,229.00	1,265.00	1,265.00	1,265.00
55	VETERANS' AGENT EXPENSES	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
	TOTAL VETERANS' DEPT	1,429.00	1,465.00	1,465.00	1,465.00
	TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	199,620.00	212,033.00	211,033.00	211,033.00
	<u>CULTURE AND RECREATION</u>				
	LIBRARY DEPT				
56	LIBRARY DIRECTOR SALARY	53,169.00	54,748.00	54,748.00	54,748.00
57	LIBRARY WAGES	68,474.00	69,101.00	69,101.00	69,101.00
58	LIBRARY EXPENSES	47,954.00	52,929.00	52,929.00	52,929.00
	TOTAL LIBRARY DEPT	169,597.00	176,778.00	176,778.00	176,778.00
	RECREATION COMMISSION				
59	RECREATION WAGES	39,350.00	42,665.00	42,665.00	42,665.00
60	RECREATION EXPENSES	22,150.00	22,150.00	22,150.00	22,150.00
	TOTAL RECREATION COMMISSION	61,500.00	64,815.00	64,815.00	64,815.00
	LAKE BOON COMMISSION				
61	LAKE BOON COMMISSION WAGES	2,745.00	2,745.00	2,745.00	2,745.00
62	LAKE BOON COMMISSION EXPENSES	710.00	710.00	710.00	710.00
	TOTAL LAKE BOON COMMISSION	3,455.00	3,455.00	3,455.00	3,455.00
	OTHER CULTURE & RECREATION				
63	HISTORICAL COMMISSION EXPENSES	450.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
64	MEMORIAL DAY EXPENSES	950.00	950.00	950.00	950.00
65	LIGHTING OF CLOCK EXPENSES	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Line No.	DEPARTMENT	FY2006 ADJUSTED BUDGET	FY2007 BUDGET REQUESTED	FY2007 BUDGET TOWN ADMIN/ SELECTMEN RECOMMENDED	FY2007 BUDGET FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED
	TOTAL OTHER CULTURE & RECREATION	1,500.00	1,550.00	1,550.00	1,550.00
	TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATION EXPENSES	236,052.00	246,598.00	246,598.00	246,598.00
	<u>TOWN WIDE EXPENSES</u>				
66	EDUCATIONAL INCENTIVE	50,000.00	37,000.00	37,000.00	37,000.00
67	GROUP INSURANCE	468,354.00	503,850.00	503,850.00	503,850.00
68	INSURANCE AND BONDS	106,700.00	114,700.00	114,700.00	114,700.00
69	TELEPHONE	22,000.00	22,000.00	22,000.00	22,000.00
	TOTAL TOWN WIDE EXPENSES	647,054.00	677,550.00	677,550.00	677,550.00
	MUNICIPAL BUDGET TOTAL	4,210,030.00	4,461,152.00	4,450,609.00	4,450,609.00
	<u>EDUCATION</u>				
	SCHOOL DISTRICTS				
70	NASHOBA REG SCHOOL DIST ASSESSMENT	10,848,016.00	11,522,329.00	11,522,329.00	11,522,329.00
71	MINUTEMAN VOC TECH ASSESSMENT	987,068.00	971,371.00	971,371.00	971,371.00
	TOTAL DISTRICT ASSESSMENTS	11,835,084.00	12,493,700.00	12,493,700.00	12,493,700.00
	<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>				
	PRINCIPAL				
72	MATURING PRIN LONG-TERM DEBT	735,000.00	1,115,000.00	1,115,000.00	1,115,000.00
	TOTAL MATURING PRINCIPAL	735,000.00	1,115,000.00	1,115,000.00	1,115,000.00
	INTEREST				
73	INT ON LONG-TERM DEBT - BONDS	556,683.00	503,305.00	503,305.00	503,305.00
74	INT ON TEMPORARY LOANS - REVENUE	4,575.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
	TOTAL INTEREST ON MATURING DEBT	561,258.00	506,305.00	506,305.00	506,305.00
	TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	1,296,258.00	1,621,305.00	1,621,305.00	1,621,305.00
	TOTAL	17,341,372.00	18,576,157.00	18,565,614.00	18,565,614.00

ARTICLE 6. RESCIND ARTICLE 44 OF 2004 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the borrowing authority granted under Article 44 of the 2004 Annual Town Meeting to purchase an interest in a certain parcel of land between Sudbury Road and White Pond Road formerly owned by Boston & Maine Railroad and shown on a plan marked "Land in Stow and Maynard, Mass. Boston and Maine Railroad – to – George Morey, JF Kerwin, Asst. Chief Engineer 1961" recorded with the Middlesex Registry of Deeds in Book 9920, Page 557, a portion of the so-called Assabet River Rail Trail; or to take any other action relative thereto.

(Treasurer-Collector)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. At a prior Town Meeting voters authorized the town to borrow money to purchase an easement for a section of the "rail trail", which would have been later reimbursed by a federal grant. Stow was able to purchase the easement with that federal grant without borrowing any funds. Much like an open but unused home equity loan, the unused "permission to borrow" the town voted can affect Stow's credit rating for future borrowing. Rescinding that vote will help keep Stow's credit rating high.

*******Beginning of the Consent Calendar*******

ARTICLE 7. RESERVE FUND

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sum of Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000), or any other sum, for a Reserve Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Finance Committee)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. The reserve fund will be used for extraordinary and unforeseen expenditures that may occur in the 2007 fiscal year. Based on historical use of the reserve fund, we feel that this is an acceptable contingency amount.

ARTICLE 8. TAX TITLE PROCEEDINGS

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sum of Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$8,500), or any other sum, to be added to any balance remaining and previously appropriated for Land Court proceedings for tax taking and land court foreclosure, including costs and legal expenses related thereto, to be expended by the Treasurer-Collector; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Treasurer-Collector)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. From time to time there are properties in Stow for which no taxes are paid. When it becomes clear that taxes are not forthcoming, the Treasurer-Collector takes legal action to take these properties, which are subsequently auctioned or used for town purposes.

ARTICLE 9. AUDIT OF FINANCIAL RECORDS

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sum of Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$9,800), or any other sum, for a Town financial audit; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Treasurer-Collector)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this amount. It will pay for the town's financial audit, which is both a sound financial control and a state requirement.

ARTICLE 10. REVOLVING FUND FOR INSPECTION FEES

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize, upon the recommendation of the Selectmen, a revolving fund pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44 Section 53E-1/2 for FY2007, to which shall be credited all permitting fees received for wire, gas, plumbing, and fire alarm permits and for weights and measures sealing, to a limit of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) for FY2007, to be expended by the Selectmen without further appropriation, for the purpose of payment of fees to the inspectors administering such permits and reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the Town; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends support of this revolving fund. This revolving fund allows the inspectors to be paid from fees collected in the current year.

ARTICLE 11. REVOLVING FUND FOR ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT SERVICES

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize, upon the recommendation of the Selectmen, the establishment of a revolving fund pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44 Section 53E-1/2 for FY2007, to which shall be credited all fees received for advanced life support services provided by the Town of Stow, to a limit of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) for FY2007, to be expended by the Fire Department without further appropriation, for the purpose of payment of all costs associated with providing advanced life support ambulance services; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends support of this revolving fund. This revolving fund helps keep the advanced life support services solvent and available to the Town by providing third party billing services.

ARTICLE 12. TRANSFER TO CONSERVATION FUND

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the Conservation Land Maintenance Account to the Conservation Fund the sum of One Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$1,100), or any other sum, to be expended by the Conservation Committee; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Conservation Commission)

The Finance Committee recommends approving this transfer. This is an annual transfer of money collected from fees and donations that enable the Conservation Commission to expend those funds for general conservation purposes.

ARTICLE 13. ADDITION TO CONSERVATION FUND

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000), or any other sum, to be added to the balance remaining in the Conservation Fund, to be expended by the Conservation Commission; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Conservation Commission)

The Finance Committee recommends approving this article. This is a periodic appropriation to fund many of the costs related to managing the town's conservation lands and similar conservation purposes.

ARTICLE 14. TRANSFER FROM WETLANDS PROTECTION FUND

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the Wetlands Protection Fund the sum of Ten Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety-five Dollars (\$10,795), or any other sum, as additional appropriation to the Conservation Commission, to be expended by the Conservation Commission in performing its duties under the Wetlands Protection Act; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Conservation Commission)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this transfer. This is an annual transfer of money collected from fees that allows the Conservation Commission to use the funds for costs associated with the Wetlands Protection Act.

ARTICLE 15. UPDATE OF PROPERTY VALUATIONS

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000), or any other sum, to be added to the balance remaining from the amount previously appropriated for the purpose of updating property valuations in the Town to full and fair cash value, to be expended by the Assessors; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Assessors)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this expenditure. This is an annual appropriation to fund consultants to assist the assessors in evaluating property at fair market value as required for fair taxation and State DOR compliance.

ARTICLE 16. TOWN RECORDS BINDING AND REPAIR

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sum of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200), or any other sum, to be added to any balance previously appropriated for the purpose of binding and repairing Town records in accordance with Chapter 66, Section 9, to be expended by the Town Clerk; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Town Clerk)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this annual appropriation to provide for the routine and ongoing expense of maintaining the integrity of town records.

ARTICLE 17. HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sums of money for Highway Department purposes as set forth in the schedule below, or any other sums; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectmen)

Expense	Amount
1. For the Road Machinery Account	\$32,127
2. For Repairs on Private Ways	\$10,000

The Finance Committee recommends these routine appropriations to maintain road machinery and repair private ways.

ARTICLE 18. FEDERAL SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000), or any other sum, to be added to any balance previously appropriated for the purpose of satisfying the compliance requirements of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended, in accordance with State Regulations, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Board of Health)

The Finance Committee recommends this appropriation to continue compliance with federal and state regulations for public water supplies.

ARTICLE 19. HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000), or any other sum, to be added to any balance remaining from the previous appropriation, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health for the purpose of providing for household hazardous waste collection; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Board of Health)

The Finance Committee recommends support of this article. This allows the Board of Health to arrange for a collection of materials that are not accepted by trash collection services, and dispose of them properly.

ARTICLE 20. EMERSON HOSPITAL HOME CARE

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000), or any other sum, to be added to any balance remaining from the previous appropriation, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health for the purpose of providing home care services and communicable disease follow-up services to Stow residents; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Board of Health)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. This is a regular annual appropriation to fund these services.

ARTICLE 21. SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL CONTAINER

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000), or any other sum, to be added to any balance remaining from the previous appropriation, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health; for the purpose of renting a container and disposing of solid waste which has been dumped on Town land and roadsides, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Board of Health)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. The town must unfortunately collect and dispose of trash dumped on town land.

ARTICLE 22. STOW CULTURAL COUNCIL

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sum of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500), or any other sum, to be added to any balance remaining from previous appropriations, to produce cultural activities and programming in Stow, including Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) of these funds to be used to support Springfest activities; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this expenditure. As a percentage of the total budget, this is a very small expenditure yet it will provide for additional cultural activities in town, continue an annual event that is highly popular, and will help further a sense of community togetherness.

ARTICLE 23. PLANNING BOARD ENGINEERING/CONSULTING AND MASTER PLAN EXPENSES

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000), or any other sum, to be added to any balance remaining and previously appropriated for this purpose, to be expended by the Planning Board for Planning Board engineering/consulting services and master plan expenses; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Planning Board)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. This is a periodic appropriation to help pay for the town's master plan expenses.

ARTICLE 24. PURCHASE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sum of Forty-one Thousand Five Hundred Fifty-three Dollars (\$41,553), or any other sum, to be added to any balance remaining from previous appropriation, to be expended under the direction of the Town Administrator for the purchase of computer equipment and software for various Town departments; and to authorize the Town Administrator to sell, trade or otherwise dispose of existing equipment in connection therewith; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. This will allow the Town Administrator to purchase, upgrade, repair, and service IT software and equipment with the assistance of the Information Technology Advisory Committee.

ARTICLE 25. FY 2006 LEGAL SERVICES

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the FY2004 Overlay Surplus account the sum of Two Thousand Three Hundred Sixty-one Dollars Twenty-eight Cents (\$2,361.28) or any other remaining sum; and appropriate from the FY2005 Overlay Surplus account the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Nine Hundred Forty-seven Dollars Twenty Cents (\$25,947.20), or any other remaining sum, both account balances to be transferred to the Town's FY06 general Legal account; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. This article transfers excess funds from the assessors' Overlay Reserve account to the current year's legal expenses. The current year has had necessary legal costs that are higher than expected, and this article will replenish the legal account without taking a large amount from the town's general Reserve Fund, leaving the Reserve Fund available for any other unexpected needs for the remainder of the current fiscal year.

ARTICLE 26. FY 2007 LEGAL SERVICES

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000), or any other sum, to be added to any balance remaining from a previous appropriation, for the purpose of funding the Town's FY 2007 Legal account; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. This will be used to fund necessary legal services in FY07.

ARTICLE 27. POLICEMEN & FIREMEN MEDICAL PAYMENTS

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sum of Four Hundred Dollars (\$400), or any other sum, to be added to any balance remaining and previously appropriated, in anticipation of possible claims presented to the Town under the provisions of Chapter 41, Section 100 of the General Laws, for the payment of medical and other allowable expenses incurred by policemen or firemen injured in the performance of and within the scope of duty; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. This appropriation is a small sum of money to pay for certain medical expenses of police and firemen incurred in the line of duty that are not covered by insurance.

ARTICLE 28. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE EXPENSES

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from FY 2007 Community Preservation Fund Annual Revenues the sum of Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000), or any lesser sum, to be expended for wages and expenses associated with the creation, implementation and maintenance of Community Preservation programs, in accordance with the provision of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44B,

the Community Preservation Act, including but not limited to office supplies, clerical assistance, property surveys, appraisals, attorneys' fees, and other professional services, recording fees, printing and all other necessary and proper expenses for the Fiscal Year 2007, in accordance with a budget to be prepared for the Town Administrator; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Community Preservation Committee)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. Funds appropriated for the Community Preservation Committee administrative budget come from the dedicated Community Preservation Fund, and have no direct impact on the tax rate.

ARTICLE 29. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION RESERVES

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

To see if the Town will vote to reserve for later appropriation monies collected from Fiscal Year 2007 Community Preservation Fund Annual Revenues for the undertaking of Community Preservation projects; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Community Preservation Committee)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. The Community Preservation Act requires that the town appropriate or reserve at least 10% of Community Preservation Fund revenues each year for each of these three purposes. This "housekeeping" article reserves these funds as required, but does not authorize the spending of any of these funds.

Reserves	FY 2007 Annual Revenues
Acquisition and Preservation of Historic Buildings and Landscapes	\$75,000
Acquisition and Preservation of Open Space and Recreation Land	\$75,000
Acquisition and Support of Affordable Housing	\$75,000

*******End of the Consent Calendar*******

ARTICLE 30. CAPITAL REQUESTS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate and transfer from available funds, or borrow the sums of money as set forth below, or any other sums, for the purposes indicated in the recommended Capital Outlay Program; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Capital Planning Committee)

The Capital Planning Committee will make a recommendation at Town Meeting.

The Finance Committee will make a recommendation at Town Meeting.

Department	Expense	Amount
1. Cemetery	Truck	\$33,000
2. Highway	Backhoe	\$80,000
3. Police	4WD SUV	\$33,000
4. NRSD	Hale School roof repair	\$25,000
5. NRSD	Hale School air conditioning	\$125,000
6. NRSD	Hale school locker replacements	\$18,500
7. NRSD	Hale School kitchen updates	\$50,000
8. NRSD	Center School ceiling repair	\$50,000
9. NRSD	Center School floor and ceiling replacements	\$15,000
10. NRSD	Pompo driveway repair	\$15,000

ARTICLE 31. CONSTRUCTION OF NEW HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC TRACK

To see if the Town will vote to approve the borrowing of One Hundred and Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$170,000), or any other sum, by the Nashoba Regional School District, for the purpose of constructing a new athletic track at the Nashoba Regional High School; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee will make a recommendation at Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 32. TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO SCHOOL BUILDING TASK FORCE

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of One Hundred Sixteen Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty-three Dollars (\$116,323), or any other sum remaining from the School Building Committee's Health and Safety account, as established by an affirmative vote on Article 26 at the Annual Town Meeting on May 27, 2003, and from the Conceptual Planning account, as established by an affirmative vote on Article 30 at the Annual Town Meeting on May 25, 2004, and from the Land Exploration account, as established by an affirmative vote on Article 34 at the Annual Town Meeting on May 25, 2004, and from the Evaluations account as established by an affirmative vote on Article 36 at the Annual Town Meetings on May 24, 2005, for the purpose of funding the work of the School Building Task Force, including but not limited to, site evaluations, building upgrades/renovations, new construction, preparation of cost estimates, conceptual plans, and other documents required to submit one or more proposals at a future Town Meeting; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. This article transfers the remaining funds from the dissolved School Building Committee (SBC) to the newly appointed School Building Task Force.

ARTICLE 33. SENIOR TAX RELIEF: REDUCE INTEREST ON DEFERRED PROPERTY TAXES

To see if the town will vote to reduce the rate of interest that accrues on property taxes deferred by eligible seniors under General Law Chapter 59 Section 5, Clause 41A, as amended by Chapter 136 Section 1 of the Acts of 2005, from 8 percent to 4 percent, with such reduced rate to apply to taxes assessed for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2006; or take any other action relative thereto.
(Council on Aging)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. The intent of this article is to bring the interest rate charged on deferred taxes into line with current market rates.

ARTICLE 34. SENIOR TAX RELIEF: INCREASE PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Section 4 of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986 as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, and further to act under the aforesaid statutes to increase by 100% the amount of property tax exemption granted to persons who qualify for said exemption under clauses 17, 17C, 17D, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 37, 37A, 41, 41B, and 41C of Section 5 of Chapter 59 of the Massachusetts General Laws and Acts and amendments thereof or additions thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.
(Council on Aging)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. The amount of these exemptions was set when real estate taxes were much lower. This article increases these exemptions to keep pace with current real estate taxes.

ARTICLE 35. TRANSFER OF MANAGEMENT OF LAND TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

To see if the Town will vote to authorize that the following parcels of land totaling 23 +/- acres located off West Acton Road shown on Assessor's Map R20 Parcels 31 and 31A be transferred to the care, custody, management, and control of the Conservation Commission for all purposes included in MGL Ch. 40 s8(c); or take any other action relative thereto.
(Conservation Commission)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. This article deals with 2 parcels of land, which were taken for back taxes. Both parcels are part of the Heath Hen Meadow wetland system and have extensive wetlands. The parcels are identified in the draft Open Space and Recreation Plan as priorities for protection for their water resources and wildlife values and the potential to link other conserved holdings. Potential tax revenue, if the town was able to resell the properties, would be less than \$1,000 a year.

ARTICLE 36. ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENT – DRAINAGE

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw, Section 3.8.1.9, by deleting Subsection 2, so that Section 3.8.1.9 shall read in its entirety as stated below; or to take any other action relative thereto.

(Planning Board)

The Finance Committee recommends approval. This article will have no fiscal impact.

PLANNING BOARD SUMMARY

This proposed change eliminates the provision that requires there be no increase in groundwater infiltration rates on sites being developed. The loss of annual recharge to groundwater as a result of the proliferation of impervious surfaces has been recognized as a significant problem in the Assabet River Basin. The current language also conflicts with language in the DEP Stormwater Policy Handbook that states that the loss of annual recharge to groundwater should be minimized through the use of infiltration measures to the maximum extent practicable.

PROPOSED VERSION

- 3.8.1.9 Drainage - When a subdivision approval or a Site Plan Approval or a Special Permit is required, drainage shall be designed so that the following conditions shall be met during and after construction and development:
1. Pre-development surface water runoff rates and volumes shall not be increased;
 2. *- This subsection deleted at the May 1, 2006 Annual Town Meeting -*
 3. Pre-development erosion and sedimentation rates shall not be increased; and
 4. No building permit, special permit or subdivision approval shall be granted if these conditions cannot be met.

ANNOTATED VERSION

- 3.8.1.9 Drainage - When a subdivision approval or a Site Plan Approval or a Special Permit is required drainage shall be designed so that the following conditions shall be met during and after construction and development:
1. Pre-development surface water runoff rates and volumes shall not be increased;
 2. ~~Pre-development GROUND WATER infiltration rates shall not be increased;~~
 2. *- This subsection deleted at the May 1, 2006 Annual Town Meeting -*
 3. Pre-development erosion and sedimentation rates shall not be increased; and
 4. No building permit, special permit or subdivision approval shall be granted if these conditions cannot be met.

ARTICLE 37. ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENT – PHASING OF GROWTH

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw, Sections 8.6.1.2 and 8.6.1.3 to read in their entirety as stated below; or to take any other action relative thereto.

(Planning Board)

The Finance Committee recommends approval. This article will have no fiscal impact.

PLANNING BOARD SUMMARY

This proposed amendment deletes the section number reference to The Massachusetts State Building Code because the current section number is incorrect, and because the State Board of Building Regulations and Standards is currently preparing the 7th Edition of the State Building Code, which may change section numbers.

PROPOSED VERSION

- 8.6.1.2 DWELLING UNITS shall be considered as part of a single development if located either on a single parcel or contiguous parcels of land which have been in the same ownership at any time subsequent to the date of adoption of this Section.
- 8.6.1.3 All newly authorized residential units for which individual or several building permits have been issued pursuant to The Massachusetts State Building Code, 780 CMR shall count toward the growth rate limit of 35 DWELLING UNITS defined in Section 8.6.2.1 of the Zoning Bylaw.

ANNOTATED VERSION

8.6.1 Regulations:

- 8.6.1.1 *Beginning on the effective date of this Section, no building permit for construction of projects involving four or more residential units shall be issued unless in accordance with the regulations of this Section.*
- 8.6.1.2 *DWELLING UNITS shall be considered as part of a single development if located either on a single parcel or contiguous parcels of land, which have been in the same ownership at any time subsequent to the date of adoption of this Section.*
- 8.6.1.3 *All newly authorized residential units for which individual or several building permits have been issued pursuant to The Massachusetts State Building Code, 780 CMR ~~113.1~~ shall count toward the growth rate limit of 35 DWELLING UNITS defined in Section 8.6.2.1 of the Zoning Bylaw.*

ARTICLE 38. STREET ACCEPTANCE: FARM ROAD

To see if the Town will vote to accept the laying out of the following named street and establish it as a town way, together with all drainage and other easements related thereto and included in the Order of Layout, the boundaries and measurements shown on the plan referred to in the description, which plan shall be included in the Order of Layout of the Selectmen to be adopted with respect to such way and related easements and filed in the office of the Town Clerk in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 82, Section 21-23.

Farm Road in Stow, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, as shown on the following plans of land:

- Plan entitled “Definitive Subdivision Plan, Stow, Massachusetts, Red Acre Estates”, prepared by Neponset Valley Survey Associates, Inc., and Joseph R. Henry & Associates, Inc., dated January 14, 1988, revised March 4, 1988, and revised March 23, 1988, recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 1227 of 1988, in Record Book 19336, Page 551.
- Plan entitled “Plan of Land in Stow, Mass. Owned by Quality Homes Realty Trust” dated December 21, 1988, revised on January 27, 1989, by David W. Perley C. E., recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 266 of 1989 in Record Book 19701, Page 191.
- Plan entitled “Plan of Land in Stow, Mass. Owned by Quality Homes Realty Trust” dated March 8, 1989 by David W. Perley C. E., recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 267 of 1989 in Record Book 19701, Page 192.

And to authorize the Selectmen to acquire by purchase, eminent domain, gift, or otherwise for highway purposes the fee or any lessor interests that may be necessary for such town ways; or to take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends approval. The acceptance of streets increases the Town’s share of state highway assistance funds under M.G. L. c. 90.

ARTICLE 39. STREET ACCEPTANCE: MILITIA CIRCLE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the laying out of the following named street and establish it as a town way, together with all drainage and other easements related thereto and included in the Order of Layout, the boundaries and measurements shown on the plan referred to in the description, which plan shall be included in the Order of Layout of the Selectmen to be adopted with respect to such way and related easements and filed in the office of the Town Clerk in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 82, Section 21-23.

Militia Circle in Stow, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, as shown on the following plans of land:

- Plan entitled “Definitive Subdivision Plan, Stow, Massachusetts, Red Acre Estates”, prepared by Neponset Valley Survey Associates, Inc., and Joseph R. Henry & Associates, Inc., dated January 14, 1988, revised March 4, 1988, and revised March 23, 1988, recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 1227 of 1988, in Record Book 19336, Page 551.
- Plan entitled “Plan of Land in Stow, Mass. Owned by Quality Homes Realty Trust” dated December 21, 1988, revised on January 27, 1989, by David W. Perley C. E., recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 266 of 1989 in Record Book 19701, Page 191.
- Plan entitled “Plan of Land in Stow, Mass. Owned by Quality Homes Realty Trust” dated March 8, 1989 by David W. Perley C. E., recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 267 of 1989 in Record Book 19701, Page 192.

And to authorize the Selectmen to acquire by purchase, eminent domain, gift, or otherwise for highway purposes the fee or any lessor interests that may be necessary for such town ways; or to take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends approval. The acceptance of streets increases the Town's share of state highway assistance funds under M.G. L. c. 90.

ARTICLE 40. STREET ACCEPTANCE: TREFRY LANE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the laying out of the following named street and establish it as a town way, together with all drainage and other easements related thereto and included in the Order of Layout, the boundaries and measurements shown on the plan referred to in the description, which plan shall be included in the Order of Layout of the Selectmen to be adopted with respect to such way and related easements and filed in the office of the Town Clerk in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 82, Section 21-23.

Trefry Lane in the Meadowbrook Estates Subdivision, Stow, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, as shown on a plan of land entitled "Definitive Subdivision Plan, Meadowbrook Estates, a Planned Conservation Development, Stow, MA, prepared for Eldamar Development Co., LLC, last revised July 14, 2003," which plan is recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 669 of 2003 in Record Book 40123, Page 225.

And to authorize the Selectmen to acquire by purchase, eminent domain, gift, or otherwise for highway purposes the fee or any lessor interests that may be necessary for such town ways; or to take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends approval. The acceptance of streets increases the Town's share of state highway assistance funds under M.G. L. c. 90.

ARTICLE 41. STREET ACCEPTANCE: WHISPERING WAY

To see if the Town will vote to accept the laying out of the following named street from Station 0+48.16 to Station 9+85.83 and establish it as a town way, together with all drainage and other easements related thereto and included in the Order of Layout, the boundaries and measurements shown on the plan referred to in the description, which plan shall be included in the Order of Layout of the Selectmen to be adopted with respect to such way and related easements and filed in the office of the Town Clerk in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 82, Section 21-23.

Whispering Way in the Wildlife Woods Subdivision in Stow, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, as shown on a plan of land entitled "Definitive Subdivision Plan, Wildlife Woods, Stow, Massachusetts," prepared for Bentley Builders, dated May 15, 1997 and revised through October 27, 1999, which plan is recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 1013 of 2000 in Record Book 31831, Page 286.

And to authorize the Selectmen to acquire by purchase, eminent domain, gift, or otherwise for highway purposes the fee or any lessor interests that may be necessary for such town ways; or to take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends approval. The acceptance of streets increases the Town's share of state highway assistance funds under M.G. L. c. 90.

ARTICLE 42. TRANSFER TO STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000), or any other sum, to be added to the Stabilization Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Treasurer-Collector)

The Finance Committee recommends approval for moving funds from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund. While this article simply moves funds from one "savings" account to another, the Stabilization Fund is viewed as more secure by bond agencies because appropriating funds from the Stabilization Fund requires a 2/3 vote of Town Meeting versus a simply majority vote for Free Cash. This will benefit Stow's bond rating for any future borrowing.

ARTICLE 43. BALANCE THE FY 2007 BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to use a sum of money from available funds in the hands of the Treasurer-Collector in reducing the tax rate (balancing the budget) for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Finance Committee)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this warrant article. A balanced budget is essential for the town's financial stability.

ARTICLE 44. TOWN ELECTION

To vote by ballot on May 9, 2006 at Center School Auditorium/Gymnasium in said Town of Stow the following officers:

Two Board of Selectmen members for three years
One Board of Assessors member for three years
One Nashoba Regional School District Committee member for three years
One Board of Health member for three years
One Planning Board member for five years
Two trustees, Randall Library Funds for three years
One trustee, Randall Library Funds to fill an unexpired one-year term
One Stow Housing Authority member for five years
One Stow Housing Authority member to fill an unexpired one-year term

And also to vote by ballot on May 9, 2006 at the Center School in said Town of Stow on the following questions:

QUESTION 1. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article VIII Transitional Provisions

Amendment deletes transitional provisions in their entirety as they are no longer applicable.

QUESTION 2. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article IV Town Administrator – Section 4-6: Selecting a Town Administrator

Amendment adds new Section 4-6, language of which formerly appeared in deleted Article VIII Transitional Provisions, and amends provisions for formation of a screening committee.

QUESTION 3. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article V Administrative Organization – Section 5-5:

Town Administrative Organization

Amendment adds new Section 5-5, language of which formerly appeared in deleted Article VIII Transitional Provisions, and updates list of those officers and staff to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Health.

QUESTION 4. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article IV Town Administrator – Section 4-1: Appointment Qualifications; Term

Amendment changes reference to screening committee establishment from deleted Section 8-5(b) to new Section 4-6.

QUESTION 5. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article IV Town Administrator – Section 4-4: Acting Town Administrator,

(b) Vacancy

Amendment to (b) changes reference of deleted Section 8-4(b) to new Section 4-6.

QUESTION 6. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article VI Finance and Fiscal Procedures – Section 7: Capital Outlay Program

Amendment requires submission of a capital outlay program by the Capital Planning Committee, rather than by the Town Administrator. Also changes submission to approximately 60 days from town meeting rather than 120 days. The capital outlay program to be revised annually and a report to be distributed with the Finance Committee report.

QUESTION 7. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article VII General Provisions Section 7-5: Definitions

Amendment deletes (a) "Capital Outlays", adds a new definition "Town Bulletin Board", and re-letters the section accordingly.

QUESTION 8. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article III Elected Officials Section 3-1: General Provisions

(a) Elected Offices

Amendment intends to eliminate confusion with regard to school committees and deletes the wording "unless superseded by a regional agreement" after the words "school committee(s)".

QUESTION 9. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article III Elected Officials Section 3-3: School Committee(s)

Amendment adds the sentence: "There shall be schools governed by local or regional school committees as determined by town meeting vote."

Revisions made to (b) regional school committee.

QUESTION 10. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article IV Town Administrator Section 4-2(h): Powers and Duties

The paragraph concerns rental and use of all town facilities and property except school property and property under control of the Conservation Commission. The Town Administrator may become responsible for school property if so voted by the local school committee. (added "local")

QUESTION 11. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article IV Town Administrator Section 4-2(j): Powers and Duties

The paragraph concerns inventory of all property of the town, including that under the jurisdiction of the local school committee. (added "local")

QUESTION 12. Shall the town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article VI Finance and Fiscal Procedure Section 6.6:

Local School Committee Budget

Amendment adds the word "local" before the words "school committee" wherever they appear.

QUESTION 13. Shall the town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article VII General Provisions Section 7-7: Periodic Review of Charter and Bylaws (c) Master Plan Committee

Amendment removes Zoning Bylaw review from this section as the Planning Board is charged with presentation of revisions to that document. Amendment changes membership of the Master Plan Committee from 9 to 7 and from 4 to 2 at large.

QUESTION 14. Shall the town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article II Legislative Branch Section 2-2: Presiding Officer

Amendment broadens the scope of the purposes for which the moderator may appoint a deputy moderator and clarifies the term "temporary moderator".

QUESTION 15. Shall the town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article II Legislative Branch Section 2-7 (a) and (c)

Amends the reference to town meeting from "regular" to "annual" for consistency with bylaws and town documents.

QUESTION 16. Shall the town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article VII General Provisions Section 7-7: Periodic Review of Charter and Bylaws (a)
Charter Review

Amendment clarifies the date upon which the charter shall be reviewed: at least once in every ten years.

QUESTION 17. Shall the town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article VII General Provisions Section 7-8: Procedures Governing Multiple Member Bodies
(a) Meetings

Amendment clarifies the procedures by which a multiple member body may call a special meeting.

QUESTION 18. Shall the town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article VI Finance and Fiscal Procedures Section 6-2: Submission of Budget and Budget Message (a)

Amendment deletes paragraph (a) concerning submission of budgets for the town meeting as this paragraph is now included in the general bylaws as Section 10 of Article 4.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting copies attested by you calling same at the Town Building and at each of at least seven (7) other public places at least seven (7) days before the time of holding said meeting.

Hereof, fail not and make due return of the warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk or Selectmen on or before the time of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 28th of March in the year 2006.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Edward R. Perry, Jr., Chairman
John Clayton, Jr
Stephen Dungan
Carole Makary
Janet Wheeler

CONSENT CALENDAR PROCEDURES

As part of an effort to make our Town Meeting time more productive, and save time for discussion of key issues, the Board of Selectmen and Moderator have implemented the "Consent Calendar."

Each year there is a number of warrant articles for which past experience suggests that the **action will be routine, non-controversial and predictable**. Again at this annual meeting these articles will be selected for inclusion in the Consent Calendar. As one of the first items of business there will be a motion to take all of these articles as identified in the warrant and **act upon these as a group by a single brief affirmative main motion**, referred to as the Consent Calendar, which will also contain separate and specific motions for each such article included in the Consent Calendar. The language and the amount of money specified in the articles included in the Consent Calendar as printed in the warrant are subject to change. The motion made at Town Meeting will include any changes. The use of the Consent Calendar speeds the passage of warrant articles which the Selectmen and Moderator, in consultation with Town Counsel and the Finance Committee, believe should generate no controversy and can be properly voted without debate.

At the motion of the Consent Calendar, the Moderator will call out the number of each of the articles, one by one. If any voter has doubt about passing any motion, or wishes an explanation of any article included in the Consent Calendar, the voter should say the word "hold" in a loud voice when the article number is called by the Moderator. The Moderator will then inquire as to whether the request to hold is for a question or for debate. If the purpose of the request was merely to ask a question, an attempt to obtain a satisfactory answer will be made, and if this occurs the article will remain on the Consent Calendar. If the purpose of the request was to hold the article for debate, the article will be dropped from the Consent Calendar and restored to its original place in the warrant to be brought up, debated and voted on in the usual way. It is hoped that voters will remove articles from the Consent Calendar only in cases of genuine concern. After calling the individual articles on the Consent Calendar, the Moderator will ask that all articles remaining be **PASSED AS A UNIT** by a unanimous vote after a brief affirmative main motion is made inclusive of all articles remaining on the Consent Calendar.

Please review the proposed motions for the articles for the Consent Calendar and the related comments that follow. Complete articles are found in the warrant. Please review them carefully.

THE CONSENT CALENDAR WILL BE TAKEN UP AS ONE OF THE FIRST ORDERS OF BUSINESS AT THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ON MONDAY, MAY 1, 2006

Please do your homework before coming to Town Meeting. If you have any questions about the articles included in the Consent Calendar, motions or procedure please feel free to call the Town Administrator (978-897-2927) **before** Town Meeting.

Note: The language and the amount of money specified in the articles included in the Consent Calendar as printed in the warrant are subject to change. The motion made at Town Meeting will include any changes.

CONSENT CALENDAR

ARTICLE AND MOTION

That the Annual Town Meeting take the following Articles out of the order in the warrant and take action on Articles 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29, as said motions are printed in the Consent Calendar, a copy of which has been provided to the voters at this meeting, without debate on any such articles, and provided that upon the request of any voter at this meeting made before the vote is taken on this motion, an article shall be dropped from the Consent Calendar and shall be acted upon in the ordinary course and order of business at this Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 7. RESERVE FUND

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000) for a Reserve Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006.

(Finance Committee)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. The reserve fund will be used for extraordinary and unforeseen expenditures that may occur in the 2007 fiscal year. Based on historical use of the reserve fund, we feel that this is an acceptable contingency amount.

ARTICLE 8. TAX TITLE PROCEEDINGS

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$8,500) to be added to any balance remaining and previously appropriated for Land Court proceedings for tax taking and land court foreclosure, including costs and legal expenses related thereto, to be expended by the Treasurer-Collector.

(Treasurer-Collector)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. From time to time there are properties in Stow for which no taxes are paid. When it becomes clear that taxes are not forthcoming, the Treasurer-Collector takes legal action to take these properties, which are subsequently auctioned or used for town purposes.

ARTICLE 9. AUDIT OF FINANCIAL RECORDS

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$9,800) for a Town financial audit.

(Treasurer-Collector)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this amount. It will pay for the town's financial audit, which is both a sound financial control and a state requirement.

ARTICLE 10. REVOLVING FUND FOR INSPECTION FEES

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to authorize, upon the recommendation of the Selectmen, a revolving fund pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44 Section 53E-1/2 for FY2007, to which shall be credited all permitting fees received for wire, gas, plumbing, and fire alarm permits and for weights and measures sealing, to a limit of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) for FY2007, to be expended by the Selectmen

without further appropriation, for the purpose of payment of fees to the inspectors administering such permits and reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the Town.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends support of this revolving fund. This revolving fund allows the inspectors to be paid from fees collected in the current year.

ARTICLE 11. REVOLVING FUND FOR ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT SERVICES

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to authorize, upon the recommendation of the Selectmen, the establishment of a revolving fund pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44 Section 53E-1/2 for FY2007, to which shall be credited all fees received for advanced life support services provided by the Town of Stow, to a limit of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) for FY2007, to be expended by the Fire Department without further appropriation, for the purpose of payment of all costs associated with providing advanced life support ambulance services.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends support of this revolving fund. This revolving fund helps keep the advanced life support services solvent and available to the Town by providing third party billing services.

ARTICLE 12. TRANSFER TO CONSERVATION FUND

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to appropriate and transfer from the Conservation Land Maintenance Account to the Conservation Fund the sum of One Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$1,100) to be expended by the Conservation Committee.

(Conservation Commission)

The Finance Committee recommends approving this transfer. This is an annual transfer of money collected from fees and donations that enable the Conservation Commission to expend those fund for general conservation purposes.

ARTICLE 13. ADDITION TO CONSERVATION FUND

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the balance remaining in the Conservation Fund to be expended by the Conservation Commission.

(Conservation Commission)

The Finance Committee recommends approving this article. This is a periodic appropriation to fund many of the costs related to managing the town's conservation lands and similar conservation purposes.

ARTICLE 14. TRANSFER FROM WETLANDS PROTECTION FUND

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to appropriate and transfer from the Wetlands Protection Fund the sum of Ten Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety-five Dollars (\$10,795) as additional appropriation to the Conservation Commission, to be expended by the Conservation Commission in performing its duties under the Wetlands Protection Act.

(Conservation Commission)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this transfer. This is an annual transfer of money collected from fees that allows the Conservation Commission to use the funds for costs associated with the Wetlands Protection Act.

ARTICLE 15. UPDATE OF PROPERTY VALUATIONS

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) to be added to the balance remaining from the amount previously appropriated for the purpose of updating property valuations in the Town to full and fair cash value, to be expended by the Assessors.

(Assessors)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this expenditure. This is an annual appropriation to fund consultants to assist the assessors in evaluating property at fair market value as required for fair taxation and State DOR compliance.

ARTICLE 16. TOWN RECORDS BINDING AND REPAIR

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200) to be added to any balance previously appropriated for the purpose of binding and repairing Town records in accordance with Chapter 66, Section 9, to be expended by the Town Clerk.

(Town Clerk)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this annual appropriation to provide for the routine and ongoing expense of maintaining the integrity of town records.

ARTICLE 17. HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to raise and appropriate the sums of money for Highway Department purposes as set forth in the schedule below.

(Selectmen)

Expense	Amount
1. For the Road Machinery Account	\$32,127
2. For Repairs on Private Ways	\$10,000

The Finance Committee recommends these routine appropriations to maintain road machinery and repair private ways.

ARTICLE 18. FEDERAL SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be added to any balance previously appropriated for the purpose of satisfying the compliance requirements of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended, in accordance with State Regulations, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health.

(Board of Health)

The Finance Committee recommends this appropriation to continue compliance with federal and state regulations for public water supplies.

ARTICLE 19. HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be added to any balance remaining from the previous appropriation, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health for the purpose of providing for household hazardous waste collection.

(Board of Health)

The Finance Committee recommends support of this article. This allows the Board of Health to arrange for a collection of materials that are not accepted by trash collection services, and dispose of them properly.

ARTICLE 20. EMERSON HOSPITAL HOME CARE

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) to be added to any balance remaining from the previous appropriation, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health for the purpose of providing home care services and communicable disease follow-up services to Stow residents.

(Board of Health)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. This is a regular annual appropriation to fund these services.

ARTICLE 21. SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL CONTAINER

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) to be added to any balance remaining from the previous appropriation, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health; for the purpose of renting a container and disposing of solid waste which has been dumped on Town land and roadsides.

(Board of Health)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. The town must unfortunately collect and dispose of trash dumped on town land.

ARTICLE 22. STOW CULTURAL COUNCIL

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500) to be added to any balance remaining from previous appropriations to produce cultural activities and programming in Stow, including Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) of these funds to be used to support Springfest activities.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this expenditure. As a percentage of the total budget, this is a very small expenditure yet it will provide for additional cultural activities in town, continue an annual event that is highly popular, and will help further a sense of community togetherness.

ARTICLE 23. PLANNING BOARD ENGINEERING/CONSULTING AND MASTER PLAN EXPENSES

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be added to any balance remaining and previously appropriated for this purpose, to be expended by the Planning Board for Planning Board engineering/consulting services and master plan expenses.

(Planning Board)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. This is a periodic appropriation to help pay for the town's master plan expenses.

ARTICLE 24. PURCHASE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-one Thousand Five Hundred Fifty-three Dollars (\$41,553) to be added to any balance remaining from previous appropriation, to be expended under the direction of the Town Administrator for the purchase of computer equipment and software for various Town departments; and to authorize the Town Administrator to sell, trade or otherwise dispose of existing equipment in connection therewith.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. This will allow the Town Administrator to purchase, upgrade, repair, and service IT software and equipment with the assistance of the Information Technology Advisory Committee.

ARTICLE 25. FY 2006 LEGAL SERVICES

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to appropriate from the FY2004 Overlay Surplus account the sum of Two Thousand Three Hundred Sixty-one Dollars Twenty-eight Cents (\$2,361.28) and appropriate from the FY2005 Overlay Surplus account the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Nine Hundred Forty-seven Dollars Twenty Cents (\$25,947.20), both account balances to be transferred to the Town's FY06 general Legal account.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. This article transfers excess funds from the assessors' Overlay Reserve account to the current year's legal expenses. The current year has had necessary legal costs that are higher than expected, and this article will replenish the legal account without taking a large amount from the town's general Reserve Fund, leaving the Reserve Fund available for any other unexpected needs for the remainder of the current fiscal year.

ARTICLE 26. FY 2007 LEGAL SERVICES

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) to be added to any balance remaining from a previous appropriation, for the purpose of funding the Town's FY 2007 Legal account.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. This will be used to fund necessary legal services in FY07.

ARTICLE 27. POLICEMEN & FIREMEN MEDICAL PAYMENTS

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Dollars (\$400) to be added to any balance remaining and previously appropriated, in anticipation of possible claims presented to the Town under the provisions of Chapter 41, Section 100 of the General Laws, for the payment of medical and other allowable expenses incurred by policemen or firemen injured in the performance of and within the scope of duty.

(Selectmen)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. This appropriation is a small sum of money to pay for certain medical expenses of police and firemen incurred in the line of duty that are not covered by insurance.

ARTICLE 28. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE EXPENSES

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to appropriate from FY 2007 Community Preservation Fund Annual Revenues the sum of Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000) to be expended for wages and expenses associated with the creation, implementation and maintenance of Community Preservation programs, in accordance with the provision of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44B, the Community Preservation Act, including but not limited to office supplies, clerical assistance, property surveys, appraisals, attorneys' fees, and other professional services, recording fees, printing and all other necessary and proper expenses for the Fiscal Year 2007, in accordance with a budget to be prepared for the Town Administrator.

(Community Preservation Committee)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. Funds appropriated for the Community Preservation Committee administrative budget come from the dedicated Community Preservation Fund, and have no direct impact on the tax rate.

ARTICLE 29. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION RESERVES

(CONSENT CALENDAR)

Move to reserve for later appropriation monies collected from Fiscal Year 2007 Community Preservation Fund Annual Revenues for the undertaking of Community Preservation projects.

(Community Preservation Committee)

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. The Community Preservation Act requires that the town appropriate or reserve at least 10% of Community Preservation Fund revenues each year for each of these three purposes. This "housekeeping" article reserves these funds as required, but does not authorize the spending of any of these funds.

Reserves	FY 2007 Annual Revenues
Acquisition and Preservation of Historic Buildings and Landscapes	\$75,000
Acquisition and Preservation of Open Space and Recreation Land	\$75,000
Acquisition and Support of Affordable Housing	\$75,000

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

COUNCIL ON AGING

One member

Duties: To coordinate and carry out programs designed to meet the needs of the senior population in coordination with programs of the Massachusetts Department of Elder Affairs as established under the Massachusetts General Laws.

Qualifications: Registered voter of Stow. A sincere interest in the welfare, health and well being of senior citizens. A willingness to accept and carry out assignments in that regard. A commitment of time and attendance at monthly meetings held the second Thursday at 9:00 A.M.

Term: Appointment by Board of Selectmen to fill an indefinite term.

Application: The Board of Selectmen will accept letters of application until 5:00 pm on Monday, April 20, 2006.

Posted March 29, 2006

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PLANNING BOARD

SIGN BYLAW REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE

Powers and Duties:

The Sign Bylaw Review Sub-Committee is charged with reviewing the Zoning Bylaw as it relates signs. The committee will identify issues including: conflicts in the zoning bylaw, sign bylaw violations, and property owner and resident concerns, and make recommendations for possible bylaw amendments and/or enforcement action to the Planning Board.

Qualifications:

Applicants should have an interest in all aspects of planning the preservation and use of Stow's physical and aesthetic character, natural environment, historical, cultural and commercial resources, safety and the "built" environment.

Term:

Appointment by vote of the Planning Board for an indefinite term.

Application:

The Planning Board will accept letter of application until 5:00 pm on April 14, 2006

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PLANNING BOARD ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Powers and Duties:

The Planning Board Associate Member may sit on the Board for the purposes of acting on a special permit application in the case of absences, inability to act, or conflict of interest, on the part of any member of the Planning Board. Associate members attend all Board meetings and actively participate in Board discussions and projects.

Qualifications:

Registered Voter of Stow. Applicants should have an interest in all aspects of planning the preservation and use of Stow's physical and aesthetic character, natural environment, historical and cultural resources and the "built" environment.

Term:

Annual appointment.

Application:

The Planning Board will accept letters of application until 5:00 pm on Thursday, May 11, 2006.

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FINANCE COMMITTEE

One Member for Three Year Term, May 2009

Five Associate Members for One year, May 2007

Duties: Reviews budgets and warrant articles to be presented at town meeting in order to make recommendations to the voters, balancing requests with the Town's ability to pay, and considers requests for transfer from the Reserve Fund.

Qualifications: Registered voter of Stow. Interest in and time to serve the Town. Willingness to attend other departmental meetings.

Term: Appointment by Moderator for terms to expire at the conclusion of town meeting as noted above.

Application: Contact Moderator Edward Newman at 897-7076 no later than 5 p.m. April 26, 2006.

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**NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
AUDIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

One member

Duties: The Audit Advisory Committee is made up of four individuals: one each selected to represent each town and one representative appointed by the School Committee. The Stow representative shall sit on the District Audit Advisory Committee, which oversees the annual audit of the School District and provide sufficient oversight to safe guard to the interests of the Town of Stow. Meets with the Superintendent and staff before and after the Audit to discuss results. The Committee is also responsible for recommending the audit firm to be used on a contractual basis.

Qualifications: Registered voter of Stow. Willingness to volunteer time to set scope of audit, meet and discuss the report, findings and recommendations. Appointee will also help follow up on the implementation of audit findings and recommendations. Meet with School Committee to report findings and recommendations. Experience with municipal finance, finance committee, and/or non-profit finance a plus.

Term: Appointment jointly by the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee for a one-year term.

Application: The Board of Selectmen will accept letters of application until 5:00 pm on Thursday, April 20, 2006.

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